

HCS HB 138 -- VIRTUAL EDUCATION (Spencer)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education

This bill changes the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program (MOVIP) to "The Missouri Course Access Program" (MCAP) and allows any K-12 student to enroll in MCAP courses, to be paid by the school district or charter school, if the student is enrolled in a school district or charter school and has attended such school for at least one semester immediately prior and the course or its substantial equivalent is not available in the school district or charter school or there is a scheduling conflict. A student that is enrolled in the MCAP and does not meet the requirements for the costs to be paid by the district or charter school must pay the costs for any course directly to the MCAP.

The bill requires the State Board of Education to provide an easily accessible link for course vendors on the MCAP website, allows anyone to submit courses for approval, and requires vendors to accept monthly payments for students enrolled in their courses.

This bill requires the students' home district to pay the costs associated with MCAP courses up to the equivalent of a full time student, under specified conditions.

The bill has an effective date of January 1, 2018.

This bill is similar to HB 2123 (2016).